

HARRIGAN WOULD HAVE BOARD OF CONTRACT MEND ITS WAYS; NO "BONE" IN COAL, HE SAYS

Points Out Shortcomings of Board in Respect to Specifications of Recent Bidding and Asks Mayor to Urge Them to Do Better.

PROVIDES MODEL SET OF SPECIFICATIONS

Thus He Would Protect the Interests of the Taxpayers Which He Asserts Are Neglected Through the Methods Now in Vogue.

Alderman Harrigan in an open letter to Mayor Wilson, directs attention to the action of the board of contract and supply, in letting a contract for 9,000 tons of anthracite coal, without the usual protective specifications insisted upon by large purchasers everywhere.

It is stated by Alderman Harrigan that a set of the usual and suitable specifications was prepared, and then abandoned, for another set, which have apparently been prepared by somebody who likes his little joke. The gist of these latter specifications is that the various grades of coal shall not contain more than certain percentages of "bone." His letter follows:

Bridgeport, Conn.
June 6, 1916.
Hon. Clifford B. Wilson,
Mayor City of Bridgeport,
Bridgeport, Conn.

My dear Mr. Mayor:—
Having listened attentively to your reading of your annual message to the members of the Board of Aldermen last evening, I was personally interested in that part relating to the Board of Supply, and after due consideration, deem this method the best to get results, for should I have brought the matter to the attention of the Board, same would have been looked upon as purely a Democratic measure aiming at your administration.

It is my purpose in this matter to build up the efficiency of the Board of Contract & Supply rather than to ridicule its various actions. My attention was called to the matter of coal supply contract, and was asked to make a personal investigation. Last Thursday morning, I called on Clerk Baldwin and procured a copy of the Board's instructions to bidders with specifications thereon. After reading same, I asked the Clerk if it was true that these specifications were waived in the granting of the contract for the two thousand tons of coal contracted for. Clerk Baldwin replied that they had, as no dealer in Bridgeport would bid against the specifications called for, but that a substitution had been made calling for the standard preparations of anthracite coal. I asked to see the standard on which the contract was given, the reply was, they had none. I asked if they ever took samples of the coal as delivered, and he stated no. The following were the specifications asked for which were considered too stringent for our local dealers, viz:

"All coal under these specifications, shall be fresh mined, clean, screened and free from slate and bone up to standard preparation of Anthracite Coal, which means that Egg Coal should not contain more than 2 per cent of slate and 2 per cent of bone in a ton, Stove Coal, 4 per cent. Slate and 3 per cent of bone, Nut Coal, 5 per cent to 7 per cent. Slate and 5 per cent of bone, also this coal shall not contain more than 17 per cent ash."

Investigation on my part reveals the fact that there is no bone in coal. The same may have been intended for the word "Carbon." Also that the ash per cent of 17 per cent was calling for a very poor grade of coal. I am herewith enclosing you a form of contract and specifications that I find has been adopted in other cities, and the specifications call for a more rigid inspection of the coal to be bought, as this matter I find amounts to yearly in the neighborhood of fifty thousand dollars, an item that cannot be too loosely overlooked by our Board of Contract & Supply, seeing that the taxpayers' money is judiciously spent.

You will note in the first section of the contract calls for the principals bidding on the coal and that no person acting for, or employed by the City of Bridgeport, is directly or indirectly interested in this bid, or expected to derive any profits from the same.

In the second section, as to delivery, the dealer will be required to notify the city coal expert as to the day of his deliveries, so that samples may be procured. This coal expert may be employed by the city to make these laboratory tests, thereby assuring the taxpayers that they are receiving from the Board of Contract & Supply, their moneys worth. This expert to be paid according to the number of tests he makes for the Board. As there are various laboratories in this city doing such work, the expense will be thoroughly justifiable.

In the third section, you will note the standard required, and should the dealer, send a better coal than contracted for, he will receive in excess of his contract price, according to the specifications on page 3. Should they be poorer than the contract, there will be a deduction from his contract price.

In the section marked District One, which calls for the coal name of mines, etc., which will enable the Board of Contract & Supply to know the grade of coal the contractor proposes to send, as each of the mines in the various states are tabulated in the mineralogist research work, as to the standing of sulphur, carbon, and ash.

On page four is a rough draft

for a surety bond to be signed and sealed to cover for 20 per cent of the contract.

Trusting that you will use your good office and endeavor to have the Board of Contract & Supply adopt this, or some other equally as rigid specifications, in all future transactions in purchasing coal for the city's needs, I am, Respectfully yours,
D. P. HARRIGAN.

Alderman, P. S.—I am sending a copy of the above letter, also a copy of the contract and specifications, to each of the newspapers in the city.

Exonerated, He Fights Accuser and Is Arrested Again

Resulting from his arrest last week charged with theft from person, John Mechuk, 29 years old of 559 Putnam street appeared in the city court again today, but the charge this time was assault and breach of the peace. Mechuk was arrested by Detective George Simon charged with extracting a wallet containing \$100 from the hip pocket of a friend but for lack of evidence the case was nolleed Saturday.

Last evening Mechuk and Joseph Tombeck, 19 years old of 593 Shelton street got into an argument on Ogden street regarding Mechuk's guilt and in the fight, beer bottles and an open pocket knife were used as weapons. Policemen L. M. Farrell and D. J. Ryan appeared upon the scene and arrested the fighters. In the city court today, the charge against Mechuk was nolleed and his antagonist was fined \$15 for his part of the disturbance.

Pullman Service on Waterbury-New York Morning Express

A Pullman parlor car is now operated on the train leaving Waterbury 6:20 a. m. and Bridgeport 7:45 a. m. weekdays, due New York 9:03 a. m. Under the summer schedule, effective June 11, this train will leave Waterbury 6:40 a. m., being scheduled about 15 minutes later than at present at stations to Stratford, inclusive, leaving Bridgeport at 7:55 a. m., and being due New York 9:20 a. m.

This train will be operated by electric locomotive from Bridgeport, affording additional comfort, and the schedule will be about the same as that of the Bankers' Express from New Haven.

Greyhound Bites a Circus Employee

For many months Richard Moulton has been traveling with a circus that is now showing in the west end and has always been on friendly terms with the Russian grey hounds, so much so that he has never been harmed while playing with them. But last evening while playing with one of the animals, it turned on him and sank its teeth into his left knee. Moulton freed himself and applied iodine to the wound.

This morning he applied at the emergency hospital for treatment and Dr. E. W. Paine dressed the wound. Moulton was at a loss to state why the dog should bite him but vowed that in the future he would keep away from the greyhounds of Russian extraction.

C. A. C. Band Concert At Wood Park Tonight

The program of the Coast Artillery Corps band concert at Wood park tonight at 8 o'clock:

March—Washington. Grays—Fraternal.

Overture—The Beautiful Galatea—Von Suppe.

Walse—Die Hydropaten—Gungl.

Selection from—Princess Pal—Victor Herbert.

Idyll—By the Suwanee—Myddleton.

Fantasia on—Grand Opera Favorites—Tobani.

Gloria—Gloria.

Star Spangled Banner.

Paul G. Goulding, Director.

Women Will Work In Fairfield For Red Cross

The "Work Committee" of the Fairfield Chapter, United Red Cross, will meet every Wednesday morning at "The Overlook" on the grounds of Mrs. Henry C. Sturges where any ladies willing to work, whether members of the chapter or not, will be welcome. The hours are 9 to 12.

JOHANNSEN JAILED FOR STEALING CANDY

For the theft of a number of boxes of candy and cigarettes from a candy kitchen at 269 Fairfield avenue, Edgar Johannsen, 22 years old, of Brooklyn, N. Y., was sentenced to 10 days in jail today by Assistant Judge Wilder of the city court. He was arrested by Detective Sergeant Hall, who found the goods in Johannsen's room.

"JACK" VANCE ALTERNATE.

New Britain, June 7.—Johnstone Vance, managing editor of the New Britain Herald, today accepted an appointment as alternate to the Democratic national convention in St. Louis made by Thomas Hewes, of Farmington. Mr. Vance was an alternate to the Baltimore convention that nominated President Wilson four years ago.

BANK CASHIER ARRESTED.

Boston, June 7.—Harry A. Jones, for many years assistant cashier of the Stoneham National bank, was arrested by federal officials today, charged with abstracting \$41,000 of bank funds for his own use.

DELICIOUS DRINK

Horsford's Acid Phosphate Without alcohol or habit-forming drugs it satisfies thirst and soothes the nerves. Buy a bottle.

Party Harmony At Chicago Is Crane's Aim



W. MURRAY CRANE AT CHICAGO

Chicago, June 7.—"The great pacifier" is what they're calling W. Murray Crane, former senator from Massachusetts, and noted advocate of party harmony among Republicans. Mr. Crane proposed that the leaders should meet and seek to reach an agreement that would insure a united party in the campaign. Of course Mr. Crane had in mind when making this suggestion in a tentative way to those with whom he consulted, that there was danger of another Roosevelt bolt.

BERLIN INSISTS WARSPITE SUNK IN NAVAL FIGHT

Berlin, June 7.—The assertion that the British dreadnaught Warspite was sunk in the North Sea battle last week is again made, notwithstanding British denials, in despatches from Kiel to the Overseas News Agency.

"These despatches state that the Warspite was sunk during the day battle by the German battleship Koenig," the news agency says. "It was observed from the Koenig that the Warspite had been damaged badly. Then there came a great explosion and the Warspite sank rapidly."

"Survivors from the German cruiser Edding say that the German submarines played an important part in the battle. The sea was thrown into commotion by falling shells. Everywhere bodies were floating. Sailors state that the report that the German ships fled is ridiculous. In the German fleet were several vessels which were slower than the British and on that account it would have been impossible for the German fleet to escape if the result of the battle had been such as to place the British in a position to pursue the Germans."

"The sailors report that there was uninterrupted fighting for 17 hours. They had no knowledge of time except that bread was passed around once."

City Officials Held For Ettor Abduction

Lawrence, Mass., June 7.—City Marshal Maurice F. McKenna and three others officers of the local police department were held for the grand jury today after pleading not guilty to charges of abducting Joseph A. Ettor, general organizer for the Industrial Workers of the World. Counsel furnished \$500 bonds for each of the officers.

Ettor came here recently to direct a strike at one of the mills and because of his remarks at a meeting Commissioner of Public Safety Caden announced his presence was undesirable. Ettor alleged that the four officers deported him to Boston in an automobile in which they rode as guards.

GOV. TRANMELL IN LEAD

Tampa, Fla., June 7.—With returns from yesterday's Democratic primary still meagre, Governor Park Trammell early today appeared to be leading in the race for United States senator. There was no indication of whether Vice President Marshall or Governor Elliott W. Major, of Missouri, had received a majority of votes as Florida's Democratic choice for vice president.

MISS WILSON RECOVERING

Miss Catherine Wilson, 21 years old of 19 Prospect street who suffered from fractured ribs, abrasions of elbows and the loss of a front tooth last evening when she fell as she stepped from a trolley car at State street and Hancock avenue was resting comfortably at St. Vincent's hospital today. She attempted to get off the car before it had fully stopped.

CORONER MIX NAMES DEPUTY.

New Haven, June 7.—Announcement was made by Coroner Mix today of the appointment of Charles Marcy Robinson, as deputy coroner. Mr. Robinson has been counsel for the Connecticut Automobile Association and represented the association in that capacity at two general assemblies.

WEATHER FORECAST

New Haven, June 7.—Forecast: rain tonight and Thursday, increasing east winds. The center of the western disturbance has moved during the 24 hours to southern Michigan. The front edge of area has moved from Ohio eastward to Connecticut. Rain has been general in the central and southern districts from the Mississippi river eastward to the coast. Temperatures continue low in the northern districts.

Mrs. Elizabeth Kline of Rootstown, Ohio, was stung to death when she attempted to take honey from a beehive there.

URNS TABLES ON BANDIT BUT HE ESCAPES HIM

Initials on Gun, Police Expect to Catch Man Who Held Up Michaels.

The initials "J. E. H." carved on the handle of an army revolver is the chief clue that the members of the detective department are working upon to apprehend the man who about 11:30 last night held up Joseph Michaels in his saloon at Newfield avenue and Eagle street, but because of Michael's nerve, failed to get anything.

Michaels was standing behind the bar when the man entered by a side door. No one else was in the place and the man ordered a glass of beer. He presented a \$10 bill for payment and as Michaels turned to make change, he saw, through the mirror at the back of the bar, a revolver pointed at him. Though commanded to give up his money and watch, Michaels instead grasped the gun and while grappling for its possession, a shot was fired, grazing his hand and shattering the mirror.

Soon Michaels wrested the revolver from the hold up man, but the latter broke Michaels' hold and fled from the place. The proprietor fired three shots but none took effect.

The police have a good description of the stranger and because of the revolver clue, it is thought that he may soon be located.

PNEUMONIA TAKES HEAVY TOLL OF BRIDGEPORTERS

Sixty-Five of 206 Deaths in City During May Caused By This Disease.

Pneumonia was the cause of 65 of the 206 deaths which occurred in Bridgeport during May, according to the statistics just compiled in the town clerk's office. More persons died of this disease than from any other cause.

The record follows: Measles, 4; whooping cough, 1; diphtheria and croup, 5; grip, 1; tuberculosis, 10; cancer, 7; spinal meningitis, 1; pneumonia, 65; diarrhoea, children under two years, 5; accident or violence, 19; all other causes, 91.

Those less than one year old who died were 13, those from 1 to 5 years, 17 died. Thirty of those who died were more than 65 years old. Five non-residents and 68 residents of Bridgeport died in public institutions. There were 13 still births.

RAILROAD MEN AT CONFERENCE RAP MANAGERS

New York, June 7.—The refusal today of Elisha Lee, chairman of the managers of the railroads of the United States, to answer questions asked by the employees' representatives as to just where the railroads stood on the wage scale, the objective point of their conference here, brought forth a storm of protest from the questioners and yesterday's threats to terminate the conference were reiterated by the union leaders.

BUILDING NOTES

The building commissioners granted building permits totalling in value \$22,570 last evening.

One family house south side of Harmony street for H. W. Hayes.

One story store and three rooms west side of Pixlee place for Andrew Freest.

Veranda east side of Laurel avenue for W. H. Johnson.

Two family house west side of White street for Andrew Mulca.

Private garage north side of Livingston place for F. J. Benton.

Two family house west side of Lindsley street for D. W. Coughlin.

One family frame house north side of East Washington street for White Eagle association.

Two family house east side of Anson street for Andrew Nelson.

Frame garage north side of Bronx avenue for Edward H. Malvey.

Private garage east side of Lexington avenue for G. Anagnoni.

Addition to two power houses west side of Pequonnock river for the N. Y., N. H. and H. R. R.

Three story brick building north side of Morgan street for Tony Julliano.

Frame dwelling east side of Wayne street for Bertha B. Wheeler.

Frame barn and chicken shed north side of Cleveland avenue for S. Di-Nardo.

Motorcycle shed east side of Fourth street for Mrs. J. Weber.

Two story frame dwelling east side of River street for Seven Huda.

Alterations to house and store front east side of East Main street.

Frame temporary shed south side of Barnum avenue for William F. Chatlos.

New store front north side of State street for Blais and Gerourey.

Two family house north side of Smith street for Martin E. Smith and wife.

BRIEF NEWS NOTES

Ohio's June crop report places the condition of wheat at 68.

Greek soldiers on leave in the boundary districts have been ordered to return to Athens.

Shannon Copper Co.'s production during May amounted to 1,074,000 pounds of copper.

Immigrants admitted to the United States during the month of April numbered 30,560.



Many A Merchant Has Come to Grief Through "Mental Joy-Riding"

Not wanting to meet with trouble at this early stage of my business career, I indulge in no complacent dreams of the future and confine myself solely to the realities of the moment.

I have too much stock for this time of year and although I might dispose of it handily between now and the end of the season, I intend to leave nothing to chance, but will close out as much of it at present as I possibly can.

Therefore, tonight and tomorrow my entire stocks of this season's woollens are on sale at big reductions. I invite you to come here and be your own salesman—take your choice of

any \$20, \$22.50 or \$25 Suits

And My Price Will Be

\$14 FOR SUIT
Made to Order--Any Style

Remember, that there are no old, obsolete styles in this store as all these woollens were bought brand new in April, and at the present the assortment and the quality of goods shown is not surpassed at any shop in the city. Every suit is guaranteed to fit you and give good service or you get a new one free. Hundreds of styles to choose from—come in and look them over.

A few Uncalled for Garments, in various sizes and some of which were made up to sell at \$25. if I have your size you may have one for \$10

John K. Merrick

Your Next Tailor.

Open Evenings 1240 Main Street 2 Doors From Gold St.

RELEASE ROYAL LEONARD.

As Royal Leonard of Ashby Falls, Miss., is married to Lovella May Curtis of Sheffield, Mass., the charge of abducting her was nolleed in the city court today. Her parents have decided that Leonard should not be prosecuted though the daughter is only 16 years of age.

TWO AUTOS STOLEN.

Two automobiles stolen last evening had not been located today though the police are investigating the thefts. One was a jitney bus that was taken from the carnival grounds in the West End while the other was a touring car taken from Fairfield avenue and Middle street.

FOX FINDS HORSE.

Detective Sergeant George Fox late last night found the brown mare belonging to Miss Maude Thorpe of Nichols tied to a hitching post on Housatonic avenue. It had been taken from in front of Clark's furniture store on Broad street during the afternoon.